GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2753
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2005
RAIL CONNECTIVITY TO REMOTE AREAS
Mane Smt. Nivedita;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme 'Rail Connectivity to remote areas' proposed in the 2004 Budget is yet to start for want of funds as reported in 'Business Standard' dated July 18, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have declined to contribute their share for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to implement the said scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Remote Area Rail Sampark Yojana (RARSY) envisages investment of Rs. 20,000 Cr. in five years period to expedite completion of financially unviable new line and gauge conversion projects which would provide rail connectivity to remote and backward areas of the country, thus providing infrastructure for their overall economic development.

(c) to (e): State Governments have been requested to contribute towards the cost of the projects to be covered under RARSY. The response has not been received from most of the State Governments. It is proposed to create specific fund for the Yojana.